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DAY OF THE DEAD

MEXICO CITY...
HEY! YOU!
¡MADRE DE DIOS! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?
"DAY OF THE DEAD" CELEBRATION OR NOT... THIS IS OBSCENE!
PUT DOWN THAT SHOVEL! RIGHT N--

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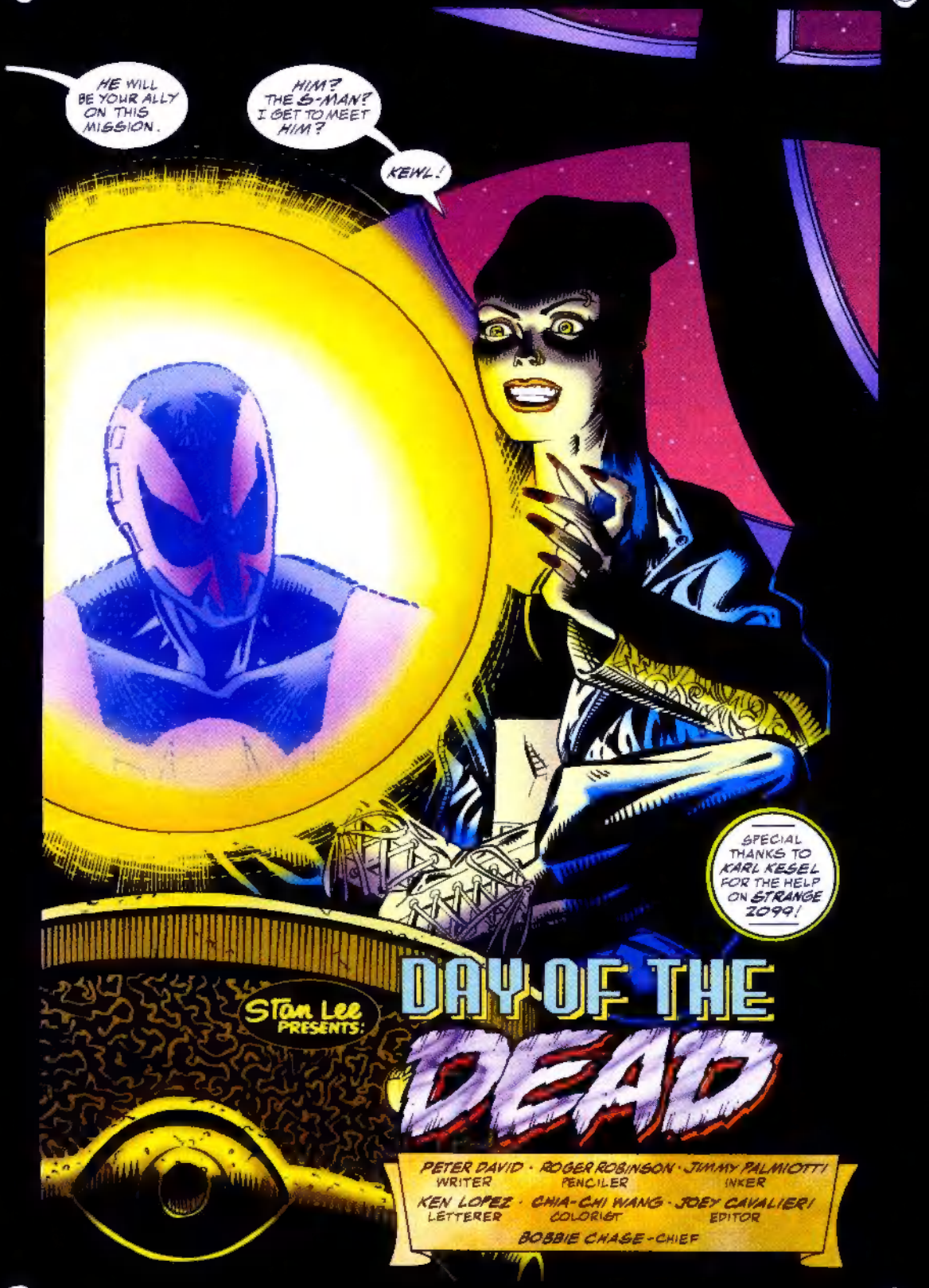
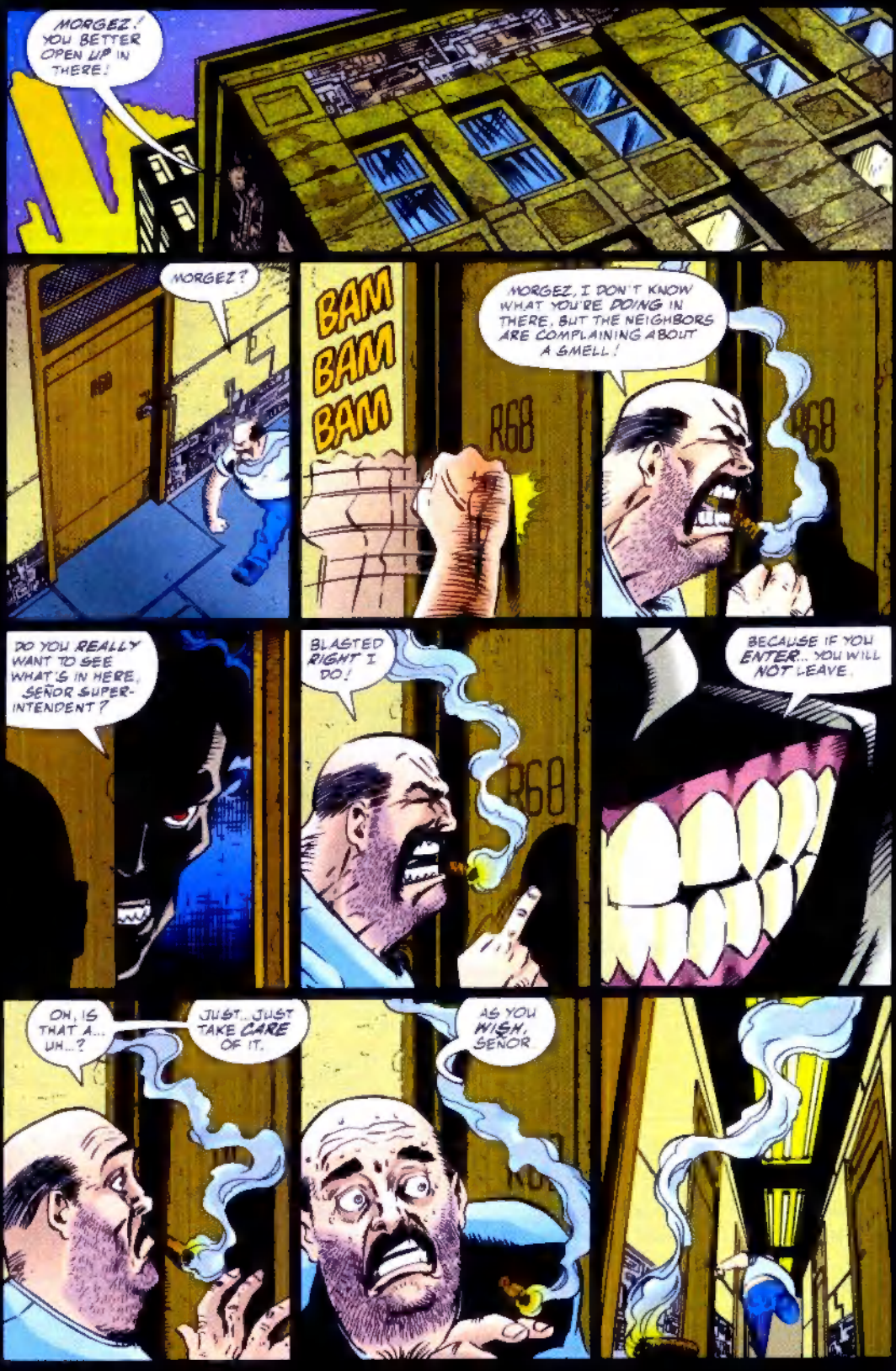

HE WILL BE YOUR ALLY ON THIS MISSION.
HIM? THE S-MAN? I GET TO MEET HIM?
KEWL!
SPECIAL THANKS TO KARL KESEL FOR THE HELP ON STRANGE 2099!
Stan Lee PRESENTS:
DAY OF THE DEAD
PETER DAVID WRITER · ROGER ROBINSON PENCILER · JIMMY PALMIOTTI INKER
KEN LOPEZ LETTERER · CHIA-CHI WANG COLORIST · JOEY CAVALIERI EDITOR
BOBBIE CHASE - CHIEF

THE DAY OF THE DEAD FESTIVAL. IN A WAY, IT ALL STARTED HERE.
A COUPLE OF YEARS BACK, WHEN MY BROTHER GABRI AND I JOINED IN THE FESTIVITIES... AND I HAD A SPECIAL COSTUME MADE.
LOS DIAS DE MUERTOS
A COSTUME IN KEEPING WITH THE SKELETAL, GHOULISH THEME OF THE FESTIVAL... BUT OF STURDY ENOUGH FABRIC TO WITHSTAND THE OCCASIONALLY WILD CELEBRATIONS.
I HAD NO IDEA I'D WIND UP LIVING IN IT.

MIGUEL O'HARA, THE PERFECT GENTLEMAN.
YOU REALLY SPENT THE WHOLE NIGHT ON THE COUCH.
WE AGREED TO BEING JUST FRIENDS RIGHT NOW, XINA. I'M NOT LOOKING FOR ROMANCE.
ME NEITHER.
BUT SINCE WHEN WAS ROMANCE A PREREQUISITE FOR LUST?
DON'T FLATTER YOURSELF. IT'S NOT LIKE YOU'RE MISS SUPER-IRRESISTIBLE.
YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY RIGHT.
AW, FOR CRYIN' OUT LOUD! DO YOU MIND?
NO. I DON'T MIND. GO AHEAD AND LOOK.
AFTER ALL, IT'S NOT LIKE I'M MISS SUPER-IRRESISTIBLE.

SHE'S SOMETHING ELSE. NO MATTER, THOUGH. IF I HAD BEEN OF A MIND TO BE.. LESS THAN GENTLEMANLY...
... THE PEOPLE NEXT DOOR SURE KILLED THE MOOD. MADE NOISES LIKE WOUNDED RHINOS HALF THE NIGHT.
OH. HI, MIGGY.
HEY, GABRI.
HUH?!?!
WHOAH!!
AAAA
FWIZZ
THE WOUNDED RHINO, I PRESUME?
JUST PULL ME UP, OKAY?!

WOULD YOU MIND TELLING ME WHAT YOU'RE DOING HERE?
WE CHECKED IN TOGETHER, MIGGY, REMEMBER?
HAVING A SHORT TERM MEMORY PROBLEM?
XINA, YOU REMEMBER MY BROTHER, GABE!
YEEEGH!!!
YOWTCH!
OF COURSE I REMEMBER HIM! WHY'S HE HERE?!
HE WAS IN TOWN AND DECIDED TO, UH...
...SWING BY.
AND YOU YELLED AT ME ABOUT "IN-JOKES."
SHUT UP AND KEEP YOUR HAND DOWN.


MORGEZ! YOU BETTER OPEN UP IN THERE!
MORGEZ?
BAM BAM BAM
R68
MORGEZ, I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING IN THERE, BUT THE NEIGHBORS ARE COMPLAINING ABOUT A SMELL!
DO YOU REALLY WANT TO SEE WHAT'S IN HERE, SEÑOR SUPER-INTENDENT?
BLASTED RIGHT I DO!
BECAUSE IF YOU ENTER.. YOU WILL NOT LEAVE.
OH, IS THAT A... UH...?
JUST... JUST TAKE CARE OF IT.
AS YOU WISH, SEÑOR

I'M SORRY ABOUT THAT, MY SWEET.
EXCUSE ME A MOMENT. WE NEED LIGHT.
KRASH
SOON, MY SWEET...
...VERY SOON.

SHOULD'VE SEEN IT COMING, I GUESS. BOTH OF THEM WANTED TO RELIVE THE "GOOD OLD DAYS," BROTHERS THINKING ALIKE.
OH, THEY'RE NOTHING ALIKE. GABE IS FORCEFUL, DYNAMIC... NOTHING LIKE MIGUEL. NO OFFENSE, XINA.
YOU'RE SAYING YOU DON'T LIKE MIGUEL?
NO REFLECTION ON YOU. YOU'RE NOT UPSET, ARE YOU?
UPSET? KASEY, I'M ECSTATIC.
AND YOU'RE LETTING HER THINK YOU'RE... YOU KNOW?
I'M NOT LETTING HER! I KEEP TRYING TO TELL HER I'M NOT... YOU KNOW.
AND...?
WELL, BEFORE I CAN MANAGE IT, WE START TO... YOU KNOW.

AND WHAT ARE YOU TWO CHATTERING ABOUT?
OH... YOU KNOW.
I DON'T BELIEVE IT! IT'S HIM AGAIN!
WHO?
SPIDER-MAN!
THAT'S JUST A CELEBRANT, XINA.
THERE'S LOTS OF SKULL IMAGES AROUND HERE JUST COINCIDENCE
YEAH, XIN. WHY WOULD THE S-MAN BE FOLLOWING YOU? THAT JUST DOESN'T FLY.
MAN... IT'S FREEZING UP HERE
NEXT TIME I JUST CONJURE UP A TICKET OR SOMETHING

C'MON, NIGGY! LET'S GET OUT THERE INTO THE PARADE.
OH, I DUNNO I DON'T HAVE A COSTUME HANDY..
WHAT THE DEVIL--?
NYAARRHHH!!!
NIGGY? WHAT'S WRONG?! WAS IT THE LIGHT SHOW?!
THAT SHOCKIN LIGHT SHOW BLINDED ME!
UH OH.
DEFINITELY MY STOP

'NITA?
'NITA? SAY SOMETHING?
PROMISE ME 'NANDO. PROMISE YOU'LL ALWAYS BE THERE FOR ME
PROMISE THAT YOU'LL NEVER LET ME DOWN! PROMISE ME EVEN IF YOU DON'T MEAN IT!
OF COURSE I PROMISE AND OF COURSE I MEAN IT.
WHAT ARE BROTHERS FOR?

I'M SORRY, 'NITA. I TRIED, I...
I WAS SO SURE. IT TOOK ME YEARS TO FIND THE AMULET...
...I FOUND THE INCANTATIONS... IT SHOULD HAVE WORKED...
IT SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT YOU BACK
BRINGING BACK THE DEAD. I MUST HAVE BEEN INSANE.
ERICK ZERMENO
NOV. 19, 1952
JAN 10, 2054

MR. CHARGAS EYES ARE... RATHER UNUSUAL I'VE NEVER SEEN A CORNEAL ARRANGEMENT QUITE LIKE IT.
FAMILY TRAIT. OUR GRANDFATHER ATE SOME. UH...
RADIOACTIVE CARROTS.
YES, WELL... YOUR BROTHER SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN FLASHBLINDED. IT SHOULD PASS BEFORE TOO LONG.
WE'RE KEEPING HIM IN A DARKENED ROOM WITH HIS EYES BANDAGED FOR A FEW HOURS.
YOU COULD WAIT, BUT HE VEHEMENTLY REQUESTED YOU GO AND ENJOY YOURSELVES.
OKAY IF YOU'RE SURE.
OH, QUITE SURE I PROMISE YOU...
...HE'S NOT GOING ANYWHERE

NOW I GET WHY THE OTHER GUY HAD A MEDICAL DEGREE. MAKES FOR BETTER INTROS.
LOOK, S-MAN... THERE'S SOMETHING GOING DOWN OL' MEHEECO WAY. I'M HERE TO CHECK IT OUT. YOU'RE HERE TO HELP ME.
OH YEAH? AND JUST WHAT'S "GOING DOWN?"
I'M NOT SURE... BUT WHATEVER IT IS, IT'S PRETTY GRAVE.

STAN LEE PRESENTS
YOUNG MIGUEL O'HARA
HITTING THE ROAD
TAXI
WELL WELL... WASN'T EXPECTING TO SEE A FARE THIS FAR OUT IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE.
PETER DAVID - WRITER
DAVID BOLLER - ARTIST
KEN LOPEZ - LETTERER
CHIA-CHI WANG - COLORIST
JOEY CAVALIERI - EDITOR
BOBBIE CHASE - DRIVER

I...I NEED TO GET BACK TO THE CITY. IS THAT GONNA COST A LOT?
AW, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. HOP IN.
MY NAME'S MIGUEL.
I'M DASH.
SO WHAT'S YOUR STORY?
WELL, THERE'S A KID IN MY SCHOOL. TOTAL NUTCASE. THEY WANT ME TO RAT HIM OUT... BUT NOTHING GOOD'LL COME OUT OF IT IF I DO.
YOU THINK RUNNING AWAY WILL SOLVE ANYTHING?
IT WILL FOR ME.
HEY! LOOK OUT!!
TAXI

SORRY, KID. I TRIED TO STOP.
I KNOW... I...
POOR LITTLE GUY. CHECKING TO SEE IF THE COAST WAS CLEAR.
IT WASN'T.
NOW IT IS, THOUGH. AND HIS PALS ARE CROSSING SAFELY.
LITTLE MASKED HERO, GETTING THE JOB DONE TO HELP HIS FRIENDS.
AND HE WINDS UP ROADKILL.
NOW THERE'S A METAPHOR.

WHAT HE DID WAS ADMIRABLE, THOUGH.
YEAH, MAYBE. SO?
YOU THINK RUNNING OUT ON YOUR FRIENDS... LETTING THIS KID GET AWAY WITH WHATEVER HE'S DONE... *THINK THAT'S ADMIRABLE?
YOU'RE SAYING I'M WORTH LESS THAN A DEAD RACCOON, JUST 'CAUSE I'M PLAYING IT SMART?
YOU SAID IT. NOT ME.
BUT HOW DO I KNOW WHAT THE RIGHT THING IS?
EVERYONE ALWAYS KNOWS WHAT THE RIGHT THING IS, DEEP DOWN.
IT'S JUST A MATTER OF WHETHER YOU'LL DO IT OR NOT.

I THINK WE'VE WAITED LONG ENOUGH, MISS DASKALAKIS.
MISS KWAN SAID THAT YOUNG MR. O'HARA WOULD BACK HER UP. BUT IT APPEARS HE DOESN'T FEEL THAT STRONGLY ABOUT--
DON'T ALWAYS BELIEVE IN APPEARANCES.
GRRRR...
NYAAAH.
SO? ASK AWAY.